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TABLOID TENDENCIES — The alleged sex scandal in the Clinton White House is the "ultimate in 'celebrity news,'" says Annette Taylor, an assistant professor of communication who teaches journalism at the University of Dayton. "It's getting an intense amount of coverage. Not that it's not a story or not an issue, but why is the coverage so frenzied? It's because a lot of the national press is moving in that tabloid direction — it's fast, it's easy and it's explosive," Taylor says. In other words, "their priorities are out of whack," she says. "When the U.S. and Britain are teaming up to plan a bombing attack on Iraq, you're looking at a world where people might die, and it's not even a page-one story. I don't think anyone is going to die in a sex scandal."

For media interviews, contact **Annette Taylor** at (937) 229-2578 or via e-mail at taylor@riker.stjoe.udayton.edu.

STARR INVESTIGATOR — Kenneth Starr's role in investigating the Clinton White House is a legacy of Nixon and Watergate, and the eventual outcome may be a direct result of Watergate as well, says Allen Sultan, a law professor who teaches constitutional law at the University of Dayton.

The effectiveness of one of the first special investigators, Leon Jaworski, in the Watergate case set the stage for using the process again for major political figures involved in suspected wrongdoing, Sultan says. And the process is "generally pretty effective," he says. In contrast to what the public may perceive as Starr's "fishing expedition" into details of President Bill Clinton's life, Sultan says the scope of the investigation rests in the hands of the three appeals court judges who evaluated and approved Attorney General Janet Reno's request for the investigation. "He has to go to the judges and ask to expand his mandate" if unexpected evidence leads him in a new direction, Sultan says.

As for the outcome, if events come to light that would undoubtedly lead to Clinton's impeachment, Sultan expects the Democratic Party to push for a quick resignation to avoid the kind of political damage caused by the protracted Watergate proceedings. "But we're a long, long, long way from that," Sultan says.

For media interviews, call **Allen Sultan** at (937) 229-3542 or at home at (937) 434-7672.